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## ***What's New?***

### **Buildings Announces New Outdoor Sign Registration Program**



On July 26, 2006, the NYC Department of Buildings announced new regulations for outdoor advertising signage. The new rules, effective August 25, 2006, enhance the Department's regulatory authority over billboards and are aimed at combating the proliferation of illegal signs near the City's major arterial highways and parks. The new regulations implement provisions of [Local Laws 14/2001](#) (41 kb-pdf) and [31/2005](#) (30 kb-pdf).

Once the new rules go into effect, owners of signs that are found to be non-compliant may incur penalties up to \$25,000 per day and the signs may be removed by the City. To learn more about this program, read the [fact sheet](#), the [presentation](#) (2,874 kb-pdf), the [press release](#) and also visit the [Signs](#) section on our website.

### **Buildings Launches 3rd Quarter Initiatives**

The Department of Buildings has a number of initiatives planned to make it easier to do business with us. Read the [service notice](#) (28 kb-pdf) for more information on some of the scheduled initiatives for this quarter.

### **Buildings and DOI Joint Effort Results in Arrest of Unlicensed Architect**

Working with information from the Department of Buildings, the Department of Investigation arrested Dominick G. Brioche for filing eight sets of forged architectural plans and related documents in Brooklyn between 2001 and 2005. If convicted, Brioche faces up to seven years in prison. Read the [press release](#) (26 kb-pdf) for more information.

## ***Buildings Around Town***

## **Buildings Presents its 2006-2009 Strategic Plan to the AIA NY Chapter**

On July 20, 2006, Buildings Commissioner Patricia Lancaster and members of her leadership team presented the Agency's [2006 - 2009 Strategic Plan](#) (2,746 kb-pdf) to the American Institute of Architect's New York Chapter. The Strategic Plan proposes initiatives to streamline the Department's services and offers a detailed look at long term objectives, which include the adoption of a Model Code as well as increased professional involvement in the plan review and permitting process. View [photos](#) from the event.

## ***Training & Workshops***

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### **Home Improvement Contractor Forum - August 3, 2006**

On Thursday, August 3, 2006, the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) is hosting a Home Improvement Contractor (HIC) Forum in Brooklyn. This Forum is open to the public and is geared to help homeowners and contractors learn more about DCA's HIC licensing requirements and various rules governing plumbing and electrical work within the five boroughs. The Department of Buildings will have representatives in attendance to answer questions. Advanced reservations are recommended. View the [announcement](#) (51 kb-pdf) for more information.

## ***Reminder***

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[Local Law 26 of 2004](#) (70 kb-pdf) required all high-rise office buildings to install photoluminescent markings in emergency exit stairwells by July 1, 2006. If you own or manage a high-rise office building and you have not filed the certification form ( [LL 26/04-1](#) ) with the Department of Buildings, you may be subject to violations and possible fines. View the [reminder notice](#) (20 kb-pdf) for more information.

## ***Did You Know?***

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To continue our tradition of making it easier to do business with us, we have archived all of our [Newsletters](#), including Buildings News, on our website [www.nyc.gov/buildings](http://www.nyc.gov/buildings). Whether you are seeking specific information, or simply want to learn more about the Department of Buildings, these informative newsletters will help you navigate topics that may affect you.

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